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LETTER DATED 24 MARCH 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF JORDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward to you the enclosed letter, at the request of Mr. Zuhdi Labib Terzi, the Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations, concerning further acts of Israeli state terrorism, attempts to assassinate mayors, followed by attempts to disband the municipal councils.

Inasmuch as the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories remains highly explosive, it would be deeply appreciated if my letter and the enclosed letter from the Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hazem NUSEIBEH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 23 March 1982 from the Permanent Observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to our notes verbales of 18, 20, 21 and 22 March 1982, I am instructed by Chairman Yasser Arafat to inform you of the following acts of Israeli state terrorism. It is well known that the Zionist Israeli aim to disband the legally elected municipal councils has been under way for some time. It first took form in the expulsion of legally elected mayors, then by attempts to assassinate mayors, followed by attempts to disband the municipal councils. Yesterday, 22 March, a new criminal approach was being pursued by the Israeli forces of occupation.

The legally elected mayor of Anabta, Mayor Wahid Hamadullah, was summoned before an Israeli military court. The charges against him are possession of banned newspapers - presumably newspapers published in Haifa, Nazareth, Jerusalem or a neighbouring Arab State, and for having attended a meeting of the elected mayors of the West Bank. Mayor Hamadullah is a member of the National Guidance Committee, a Palestinian committee shouldering the on-the-spot responsibility for the Palestinian people under occupation. Should he be found "guilty", he will be "legally ousted from his post as mayor".

Another form of humiliation and degradation is now being tried against the Palestinian people under occupation. Yesterday an Israeli soldier savagely attempted to rape a young Palestinian girl who had been detained in Rafah. This heinous criminal act is but a further example of what level of depravity Zionist Israelis will stoop in their methods of oppression, suppression and humiliation of human dignity.

There are numerous reports today of casualties in Rafah as a result of Israeli gun-fire. Jabalia, Rafah and Khan Yunis in the occupied Gaza Strip were also the scenes of Palestinian demonstrations accompanied by a general strike.

During the last 26 hours (22/23 March) there have been several Palestinian casualties. Due to an Israeli news black-out, the list of casualties is incomplete; reports so far are 1 killed and 11 wounded. It is also reported that 4 people were wounded yesterday in Rafah, as well as two others in Nablus, and an unknown number in Jerusalem. Some of the casualties are:

Deir Ammar Camp - Ramallah district

Muhammad Hamad Deeb Al-Bidha, 17 years old, killed

Ibrahim Hassan Al-Khatib, 19 years old, wounded

Anwar Husni, 18 years old, wounded

Jerusalem

Hatem Abdel Muti' Jaabri, wounded

/...

Jalazoun Camp - north of Ramallah

Mahmoud Ibrahim Abdel Aziz, 18 years old, wounded

Saad Al-Din Qattab, 18 years old, wounded

Bteilo Village, Ramallah district

Abdel Karim Anwar Hussein, 17 years old, wounded

Mishmas village, near Al-Bireh

Bajis Hazaa', 18 years old, wounded

Miryam Abu Siyam, wounded

Nablus

Dr. Jamal Abu Hijleh, wounded

Nusush Al-Qassas, wounded

Muhammad Burhan Ya'ish, wounded

Demonstrations continue into the fifth day in most major towns in the occupied Palestinian territories, as massively reinforced Israeli troops continue their Nazi-like purge against Palestinians.

Yesterday Palestinian shopkeepers in Jerusalem were ordered by Israeli troops to open their stores or face military courts. New police posts are being set up in and around the Old City in an attempt to intimidate Palestinian shopkeepers into opening their stores.

Forty children at the secondary school in Jenin were arrested yesterday. At the same time, Israeli troops stormed the Tareq Bin Ziyad secondary school in Hebron and arrested the Director, 2 teachers and 16 children. In Beit Jala, armed Zionist settlers stormed the Girls' School, opening fire and hurling tear-gas grenades at the students.

An unconfirmed number of teachers were arrested today; figures at present stand at 10 in Balata camp, 15 in Jerusalem, 3 in Tulkarem. Ten students were also arrested in Tulkarem.

Clashes were reported in Jerusalem, Askar and Balata camps near Nablus, in the town of Nablus itself, as well as Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Jericho, Qalqila, Hebron and several surrounding villages. Israeli troops have imposed curfews on most of the aforementioned. In Qiryat Arba', armed Zionist settlers joined Israeli troops in firing on Palestinians and imposing a curfew on the village.

The Palestine Liberation Organization wishes to affirm in the strongest possible terms its condemnation of these vindictive attacks and affirms that all actions taken by our people under Zionist military occupation against the forces of occupation are actions legitimized by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

(Signed) Zuhdi Labib TERZI
Permanent Observer
